

Edmund Rice (1638) Association

Newsletter

2808 Superior Drive, Livermore, CA 94550

Vol. 99, No. 4, Fall 2026



Deacon Edmund Rice Homestead
Wayland, MA 1643 - 1912

The Edmund Rice Association publishes the newsletter four times a year: 1) Winter, 2) Spring, 3) Summer, and 4) Fall. The summer newsletter is devoted to the annual September Reunion and includes a description of the program and registration information. The other three newsletters include information of more general interest to our members. We invite all cousins to submit their genealogical information, newsletter corrections, items of interest, family articles and pictures, obituaries and queries. Send them to the newsletter editor at: editor@edmund-rice.org

President's Column



Greetings, Cousins!

Artificial intelligence continues to be a hot topic. The legal issue arises -- if an AI agent's actions cannot be accurately predicted in advance, then can the AI developer be held responsible for such actions, regardless of who gave the prompt that set the agent going? I have just begun rereading the 1966 science fiction novel by Robert A. Heinlein called "The Moon is a Harsh Mistress", which tells the story of a lunar computer that "wakes up" after being enhanced in circuit elements beyond the number of neurons in a human brain.

Like modern Large Language Models, this Holmes IV computer (nicknamed "Mike" in the book) is a voracious reader, gobbling works of fiction as well as fact, but, by Heinlein's notion, able to distinguish fiction as "not-true" somehow. Unlike LLMs, Mike gets his text input by scanning the printed page instead of accepting text files. Suffice it to say that Heinlein doesn't go into detail about how Mike tells fact from fiction. In any case, what Mike does in the book is mastermind a revolution in the lunar colonies as the logical extension of his curiosity about what makes a joke funny. In the book, it is taken for granted that the revolution against the evil Lunar Authority is long overdue, and so (spoiler alert!) Mike's ultimate demise is a great tragedy.

This leads to one of the foresightful lessons Mike tried to teach us in 1966: never let your heating/cooling systems be hooked up to the Internet, as inimical hackers could then make you very uncomfortable.

However, I seem to be wandering off the point. Getting back to AI, the business of telling fact from fiction remains a key stumbling block. This applies not just to the input, but even more so to the output. When constructing a text or image out of bits and pieces of mixed provenance, the temptation arises to insert bits that appear in similar contexts, even if they don't belong in the work being assembled. Worse, in the case of genealogy, we are cursed with an accumulated literature with many outright falsehoods collected by careless publishers in the late 1800s and early 1900s. These bad data often find their way into the compilations posted by eager new genealogists and may therefore be dragged into the training of LLMs. An AI bot may not be the best authority to consult about your genealogical research.

~ John Chandler

Edmund Rice (1638) Association Newsletter

Send your articles, newsletter corrections, member news, your children or grandchildren's births, obituaries, family items of interest and any queries to the newsletter editor:

email: editor@edmund-rice.org

Deadline for Fall issue, 2026, is September 30, 2026.

Membership

The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc. is governed by a Board of Directors, of at least five members, elected at the annual reunion and meeting, usually held on a weekend in September.

Descendants of Edmund Rice were holding reunions as early as 1851, but it was not until 1912 that the Association was formed, and officers elected. Incorporation under Massachusetts law took place in 1934.

Membership is open to anyone who claims to be a lineal descendant of Edmund Rice. Rigorous proof is not required, and many members have been able to ascertain their pedigree only after access to the books and files of other members. Spouses are also eligible for membership.

Annual dues, payable *September 1*, are:

Initial dues.....\$ 20.00

Renewals:

Under 80 years of age.....\$ 20.00

Age 80 and above.....\$ 10.00

Life membership.....\$300.00
(single payment)

Checks Payable to: EDMUND RICE (1638)
ASSOCIATIONN., INC.

**Membership Mailing Address and Address
Corrections:**

David W. Rice
2808 Superior Drive
Livermore, CA 94550

membership@edmund-rice.org

IMPORTANT: Please notify David Rice of email address changes to continue to receive notices of when the latest newsletter is posted to the ERA website.

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Website:

www.edmund-rice.org

Social Media:



Like us on Facebook, at

Edmund Rice (1638) Association

Follow us on Twitter **@EdmundRice1638**

Contact us:

info@edmund-rice.org

Editor's Column

~ David W Rice

It is hard to pick the highlight for the 175th Rice Association in Carson City. Certainly, the visit to the 1960 mansion that the H F Rice family lived in for about eight years was high on the list.

Another highlight was dinner at Red's 395 BBQ. I had the ribs and the smoked brisket...Excellent! While we were eating, a card magician entertained us with some amazing card tricks. Great fun!

The hospitality of the Federal Hotel and Carson City in general was also a major highlight for me. Carson City is Nevada's State Capital with a small-town feel, which we all enjoyed.

2026- 2027 Officers

President & Historian & DNA Project, John F. Chandler

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john.chandler@alum.mit.edu

Vice President & Webmaster, Brian C. Rice

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David W. Rice, troutfly3@comcast.net

Doyle L. Rice, doylerice7@gmail.com

Timothy L. Sanford, timothy.l.sanford@sympatico.ca

Directors Emeritus

George King
Beth McAleer

ERA Past Presidents

1912-1913	Eustace Bond Rice	1952-1953	John A. Bigelow	1976	Seaver M. Rice
1913-1920	Nellie Rice Fiske	1954	Sturgis C. Rice	1977-1978	Henry E. Rice, Jr.
1921-1922	H. Eugene Rice	1955	Charles W. Rice	1979-1980	C. Whiting Rice
1923-1924	John E. Rice	1956-1957	Edgar W. Rice	1981-1982	William H. Drury
1925-1928	Harry C. Rice	1958-1959	Stanley I. Rice	1983	Patricia P. MacFarland
1929-1930	Clarence E. Rice	1960	Donald H. Whittemore	1984-1985	Janice R. Parmenter
1930-1931	John A. Bigelow	1961-1963	Frederick R. Rice	1986-1987	Margaret S. Rice
1932-1934	Russell J. Rice	1964-1965	William H. Hoefler	1988-1989	Alex W. Snow
1935-1936	Daniel H. Rice	1966-1967	Ray Lowther Ellis	1990-1993	John S. Bates
1937-1939	Elsie Hawes Smith	1968	Edgar W. Rice	1994	Alex W. Snow
1940-1941	Sturgis C. Rice	1969	Erwin R. McLaughlin*	1995-1997	Frederick H. Rice
1942-1945	Arthur P. Rice	1969	Jeneve M. Melvin	1998-2006	Dr. Robert V. Rice
1946-1947	Everett E. Rice	1970-1973	Col. Allen F. Rice	2007-present	John Chandler
1948-1949	Ralph E. Rice	1974	Margaret E. Allen		
1950-1951	Ralston F. Rice	1975	Charles W. Rice		

*Note: Died in office

EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Published winter, spring, summer and fall by the Edmund Rice (1638) Association

The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, 183 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard, MA 01451 was established in 1851 and incorporated in 1934 to encourage antiquarian, genealogical, and historical research concerning the ancestors and descendants of Edmund Rice who settled in Sudbury, Massachusetts in 1638, and to promote fellowship among its members and friends.

The Association is an educational, non-profit organization recognized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

New Annual Members

Wendie Davila, CA
Tori Ellis, CA
Arlyn Rice, CA

In Celebration

Happy Birthday!!

October

Christina Estabrook Allen
William Roger Ames
Sheree K Brown
John B Davidson
Carol Kosicki
Rita V O'Connell
Robin Pewtress
William W Rice
Dennis H Rice
Jeffrey M Rice
Parrish Anthony Rice
Joella Schultz

November

Kent Baker
Sandra Hewlett, CG
Elizabeth Long Johnson
Charlene K Keith
Heather J McPherson
William S Miller
Jeanette Ockunzzi
Roger A Rice
Ariel Rice
Yaqirah Rice
Samuel Rice
Bradford Rice
Edmund C Rice
Paul D Rice
Elizabeth Smith
Melinda S Crawford
David Wingate Rice Jr
David Lawrence

December

Donna Barnes
Thomas Hungiville Hillery
Gail Nettles
Beth Ann Perry
Paul W Piatkowski
Doyle Rice
Donald C Rice

Summary of Carson City 175th Rice Association Reunion and Meeting

The fun started Friday, September 25, with a tour down Curry Street on the way to the Nevada State Museum. Along the way, we saw two of the earliest Carson City buildings. Both the Sweeney building and the Engine Number 2 fire house were built in 1864. The Fire House is a fine representative of early Carson City stone construction and was constructed with sandstone quarried at Curry's quarry by Nevada State Prison inmates.

We passed by the location of the log cabin, built in 1858, that was the Carson City Post Office in use when H. F. Rice was appointed Postmaster in 1860.



We next visited the Nevada State Museum and U.S. Mint to learn about mining and the making of silver and gold coins at the Mint. Rice and Curry broke ground for the Mint in 1866. It was completed in 1870. Curry supervised construction and was the first supervisor with H. F. Rice as his deputy. When Mint was completed, Curry resigned and Rice was appointed supervisor by President Grant.



Leaving the Museum, we headed to the Nevada State Railroad Museum along North Carson Street, passing several buildings erected during the period that H. F. Rice was active in Carson City local government. These included the Nevada State Capital completed in 1871 using Carson City Sandstone and land the Curry set aside. We also saw the St. Charles Hotel, built in 1862. This is second oldest hotel in Nevada. The oldest is the Gold Hill Hotel and Saloon. We saw it on Sunday as we traveled to Virginia City.

At the Nevada State Railroad Museum, we saw perhaps the finest collection of period steam locomotives. The tour was guided by three knowledgeable docents. We saw a restored Wells Fargo stagecoach that was used to travel throughout the west. A highlight was the Railroad Museum machine shop where a steam locomotive was disassembled and being



restored to operating condition.

Next stop was the Lone Mountain Cemetery to pay our respects at the combined Rice/Yerington family's burial plot. As we traveled to the cemetery, we passed through the Carson City area where H. F. Rice and his partner, Peters, developed a housing tract known as the "Rice-Peters Addition". This real estate designation still is in current use in current real estate advertisements.

We continued to tour the historical houses that were built while H. F. and Jennie Rice were living in Carson City. We saw the location where it is believed that Rice built his first house in 1860, now long gone. Henry Yerington and family lived with the Rices until he built his own home (1863) which we viewed next. The Yerington house is next to the Clemens House where the Nevada Territorial Secretary, Orion Clemens and his brother, Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), lived.

Two blocks down the street are St Peters Church and Rectory. The Rectory was originally built in 1862 and was to be used as the Territorial Governor's residence, but Nye preferred his own mansion, so the building was generally used by Orion Clemens as an office. Many important early legislations were signed at this building, such as Nevada's ratification of



the 13th amendment abolishing slavery. St. Peters church groundbreaking was in 1863. Rice set one corner stone and Curry set another.

We completed our tour with a visit to the Nye Mansion which was home to the H. F. Rice family for eight years, starting in 1870, when Nye was elected U. S. Senator and moved to Washington, D C. The law firm currently occupying the house provided us a fascinating tour of the interior of this home which was the



earliest house built in Carson City (1860). It was built using Carson City Sandstone from the Curry quarry.

Our information packed day concluded with a delicious dinner at Red's 395 BBQ followed by a Board of Directors meeting.

The next morning, September 26, 2026, reunion activities began again when twenty cousins gathered at the Federal Hotel, where many attendees were staying. We enjoyed cookies and coffee before the presentations began.

The presentations were:

- John Chandler who opened the meeting with Welcome and Opening Remarks followed by an update on the ERA Family Database and Rice DNA Project
- Michael Rice presented the traditional Edmund Rice 101 followed by his presentation titled, "The Conway Rices - Moving West" which expanded on the Harvey Rice (H. F. Rice's Half-brother) family members who eventually ended up in California.
- Following a mid-morning break, we were honored that the Mayor of Carson City, Lori Bagwell, joined us to partake of the festivities.
- The next presentation was by Frances D Rice, ERA member, titled "Tents to Towns". She did a good job setting the historical Comstock Boom stage for our guest speaker.
- After a group photo and excellent plated lunch, we heard a very interesting talk by our featured guest speaker, David Woodruff, Research Historian and Chautauqua presenter. His talk was "In Mint Condition - The Life and Times of Henry Freeman Rice".
- The last presenter was "Mining the Forests" - Carol Rice, ERA Member. She showed us the



Left to right: Fran Rice, Carol Rice, Wendie Davila, Ed Davila, David Rice, John Chandler, Guy Gettle, Kevin Mullen, Arlyn Rice, Bobbie Constable, Bill Cornie, Sue Mullen, Brian Rice, Jeffry Rice, Shellie Rice, Katrina Schmidt, Michael Rice, Gary Ellis, Tori Ellis



David Rice, Bill Cornie, Gary Ellis, Michael Rice, Tori Ellis, Ed Davila, Bobbie Constable, John Chandler, Sue Mullen, Wendie Davila, Arlyn Rice, Fran Rice, Kevin Mullen, Guy Gettle, Mayor Lori Bagwell, Brian Rice, Katrina Schmidt, Carol Rice, Jeffry Rice, Shellie Rice

impact the vast amount of timber used in building Carson City and the mines of the Comstock.

The PDF version of the presentations can be found at: <https://www.edmund-rice.org/library.htm> .

After a break we held the Annual meeting of the Edmund Rice Association where we elected officers and directors for the

coming year. Please see the meeting minutes as a separate article in this newsletter.



The door prize for the oldest member in attendance was given to Bill Cornie. The youngest prize went to Kevin Mullen, and the prize for the person traveling the farthest went to Michael Rice. The door prizes recipients received a Carson City mint silver dollar.

On Sunday September 27, there was an optional trip to Virginia City, Nevada, the site of the famous Comstock Silver boom. Attendees had about four hours to wander through this historic city that reached its peak about 1875. Attractions included Court House Museum, Silver Queen silver dollar dress, Mark Twain Museum, Ponderosa Mine tour, V&T train ride to Gold Hill, Wild West Gunfight Show, multiple restaurants, and multiple shopping opportunities.



Minutes of the 175th Reunion and Meeting of the Edmund Rice (1638) Association

Annual Meeting Minutes September 26, 2026

The meeting was held in the Sierra Room, Federal Hotel in Carson City, NV. President John Chandler opened the meeting at 3:00 PM.

Attendees:

John Chandler (President)
Brian Rice (Vice president)
Michael Rice (Treasurer)
David Rice (Director)
Kevin Mullen (Director)
Guy Gettle (Director)
Tori Ellis
Gary Ellis
Arlyn Rice
Fran Rice

Katrina Rice Schmidt
Sue Mullen
Bill Cornie
Bobbie Constable
Wendie Davila
Ed Davila
Shellie Rice
Jeffry Rice
Carol Rice

A motion to waive the reading of the 2025 annual meeting minutes was made and seconded. The motion carried by unanimous acclamation. Guy Gettle volunteered to serve as acting recording secretary for the meeting.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer Michael Rice reported \$3,600 in dues, \$52 in gifts, \$505.30 from sales of publications, and \$1,805.13 interest on bank accounts for a total income of \$5,962.43 since the last annual meeting. Expenses since the last meeting totaled \$4,655.11. Net income was thus \$1,307.32. The largest expenses were for the reunion (\$2,884.25) and newsletters (\$1,446.22)

Michael noted that on occasion that annual meeting expenses for 2 meetings are recorded in the same period depending upon when invoices are paid. Attendance fee payments can be recorded in the prior year or subsequent year, depending upon when the checks are deposited.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was moved and seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Membership report

President Chandler reported that the ERA has 119 annual members (who paid \$20 dues) and 155 life members, for a total of 274 active members. Since last meeting, 6 deaths of members were announced: Dale Gunn, Ruth Brown, David King, Thomas Gidley, Joan Miller and Lillian Rice.

Door prizes were announced:

- Bill Cornie for oldest attendee
- Kevin Mullen for youngest attendee
- Michael Rice for having traveled farthest (by 50 miles)

Door prize awardees were given Carson City mint silver dollars in a case.

Book custodian's report

Michael Rice reported that overall stocks of books had been reduced by 2/3 since he assumed the position in 2007. The inventory of *We Sought the Wilderness* is declining but good supplies of Ward's *Rice Family + Supplement* (2 volumes) remain plentiful, as do flash drives for the 9-generation version of the family database. One book (only) was destroyed when his basement flooded during a severe storm.

The book custodian has given complete sets of all books to seven libraries, including the New England Historical Society, Genealogical Society of Utah, Worcester Historical Society, Sudbury Historical Society, Goodnow Library (Sudbury), and Westborough Library. Order forms for publications were provided at the meeting.

Family Database report

After adding more than 6,000 new entries since the last annual meeting, approximately 335,000 people are now in the current database.

Genetics report

President Chandler presented a report on the genetics (DNA) projects. The Y-DNA sample now comprises 595 total, with 36 groups represented. 101 are members of Group 1 (clan of Edmund). 159 are not grouped.

The mtDNA project now includes 26 participants in all, with 3 groups. The latest group was discovered this year and consists of two members, both descended from Thomasine Belgrave, mother of Edmund Rice's first wife, Thomasine Frost.

Planning for 2027 ERA 1638 annual meeting

President Chandler stated that next year's meeting will be held during the last week of September "somewhere in the Sudbury region". A few possible venues were discussed but no decisions were made and no vote taken.

Elections

President Chandler reported that Kathleen Bond had resigned as Recording Secretary but wished to become a director.

A slate of officers was produced in a meeting of the board of directors the prior evening. These were:

- President: John Chandler
- 1st Vice president: Brian Rice
- 2nd Vice president (Activities): Carleton Proctor
- Treasurer: Michael Rice
- Recording Secretary: Guy Gettle
- Directors: Kathleen Bond, Kevin Mullen, David Rice, Timothy Sanford, Doyle Rice

A motion to approve the slate of officers presented was made and seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

No further old business was brought up.

New Business

President Chandler announced that the Board had voted to give a \$500 stipend to officers and directors traveling more than 2,000 miles to attend an ERA meeting. A motion to approve this action was made and seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

David Rice described the plan for the tour to Virginia City set for the following day. He took a head count of those planning to join the tour and confirmed that the rented van would be large enough.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The motion to adjourn was passed unanimously by acclamation. The 2026 annual meeting was adjourned at 4:10.

[signed Guy L. Gettle]

Guy Gettle, Recording Secretary

Date, September 30, 2026

ERA Database

Our computer database has been and will continue to be essential for DNA studies for Edmund Rice descendants and the descendants of other early Sudbury families. We need your continuing support. If you have not submitted your family line to us, why wait any longer? Have Questions? Contact our Historian at: john.chandler@alum.mit.edu

Nine-Generation Rice Report Available on USB Flash Drive

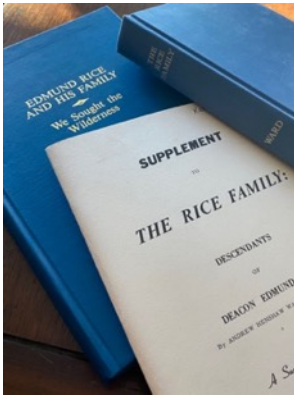
Your Board of Directors (BoD) agreed that we would offer the nine-generation report to our members (only). The BoD approved a charge of \$10 plus \$5 shipping and handling postpaid for a USB flash drive containing the documents. Please order from the Treasurer by sending a request for the USB flash drive, your name and mailing address and a check or money order for \$15 to:

Michael Rice
201 Old Post Rd.
Wakefield, RI 02879-3908

The Board of Directors placed three conditions on the distribution of the report:

- 1) The information is copyrighted by the Edmund Rice (1638) Association and is restricted to the personal use of association members.
- 2) The USBs will be available only to Association members who agree to its terms of use.
- 3) The Association master database is an ongoing effort through September 2024. If you find any documentable errors, please let us know!

Rice Books Available



The Rice Family, by Andrew Henshaw Ward [5]

Hard-cover reprint. New, unused. A genealogical history of descendants of Deacon Edmund Rice who came from Berkhamstead, England, and settled in Sudbury, Massachusetts, in 1638. Includes a soft-cover supplement (1967) containing additions and corrections. 379 pages.

The Rice Family, Supplement 2 (Part 1) [7]

Supplement Number 2 (Part 1) to *The Rice Family*, compiled by Margaret S. Rice (1983). Hard-cover reprint. New, unused. Additional lines of descent through the first eight generations, which were unknown at the time of publication of *The Rice Family* and the 1967 supplement. 224 pages.

The Rice Family, Supplement 2 (Part 2) [8]

Supplement Number 2 (Part 1) to *The Rice Family*, compiled by Margaret S. Rice (1985).

Hard-cover reprint. New, unused. A continuation of *The Rice Family Supplement 2 (Part 1)* from the ninth generation to the present (1985). 720 pages.

Edmund Rice and His Family and We Sought the Wilderness [5]

Two manuscripts in one binding. Hard-cover reprint. 1986. New, unused. *Edmund Rice and His Family*, by Elsie Hawes Smith (1938) A historical narrative about the early days of the Rices. Contains much genealogical information, as well as being a charming story. *We Sought the Wilderness*, by Rev. Clayton Rice (1949) A historical narrative based on those Rices who pushed Westward to the prairies after short stays in New Hampshire and Vermont. 357 pages.

A Genealogical Register of Edmund Rice Descendants [15]

Published by the association in 1970. A continuation of A.H. Ward's *Rice Family* (1858) and the supplement to that book, bring it up to date at the time of publication. 1594 pages. *This book is out of print but is available for purchase on USB drives - Association members only.*

Sudbury 1890-1989: 100 Years in the Life of a Town, by Curtis F. Garfield [10]

Published by Sudbury Historical Society and Porcupine Enterprises in 1999, Sudbury, MA. ISBN 0-9621976-3-7. 242 pages.

Heartbeat of History: A Collection of Short Stories from the Saltbox House, by R.M. Rasey-Simpson [5]

Published by Sharpe & Company in 1999, Sanborn, NY. ISBN 0-966789-2-9. 182 pages.

Mail your check/money order made payable to: Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc. send to:

Michael A. Rice
201 Old Post Rd
Wakefield, RI 02879-3908

Membership Renewal

Remember to Renew Your Membership!

We want to stay connected! Please send in the membership form (last page of this newsletter), with your annual dues or consider a Life Membership.

Life Membership

Consider a Life Membership. By paying one single payment of \$300.00 you will never have to worry about remembering to pay your annual dues!

Memorial Gifts

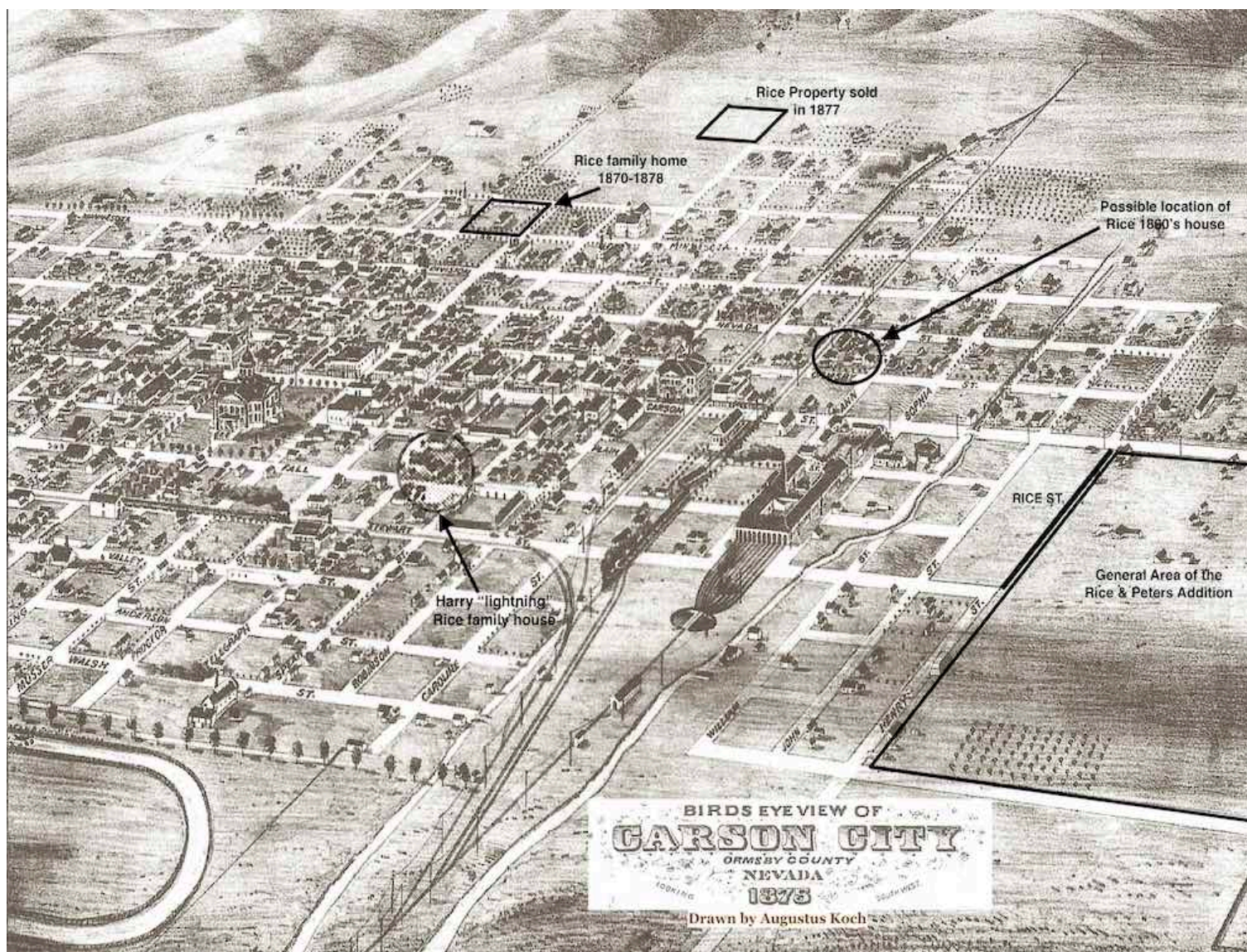
Consider donating to the Edmund Rice (1638) Association in memory of a loved one, or consider a legacy gift, a planned future donation, given through a will or other form of designation.



Mullen and David Powell at recent Louisville Sons of the American Republic (SAR) meeting.

Kevin wore his Rice Association 175th Reunion Shirt promoting the Edmund Rice Association.

Kevin Mullen is a descendant of patriot Amos Rice (1727-1807). Amos Rice is the 6th Great Grandfather of Kevin.





David Rice
ERA Membership Chair
2808 Superior Drive
Livermore, California 94550
membership@edmund-rice.org

The dues year is September 1st to September 1st each year. Dues rates are per person; there is no discount for a spouse or children. The Board of Directors voted to insert the "Additional Voluntary Contribution" line to offset the erosion of our treasury due to the current low interest rates. Additional contributions are appreciated.

The schedule of dues is as follows:

Under age 80	\$20.00
Age 80 and above	\$10.00
Life membership (in a single payment)	\$300.00

Annual dues are payable by September 1 st :	\$ _____
Additional voluntary contribution:	\$ _____
Total:	\$ _____

Membership Type: New ___ **Renewal** ___ **Membership Info Update** ___

Preferred Newsletter Delivery Method: Paper via US Mail ___ or Email ___

Phone Number: (____) _____

Email address: _____

Birthday (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

Added to ERA database for identification (kept confidential) and Birthday Wishes

Name: _____

Due to duplicate first & last names: Please include First, Middle, "Maiden" Last, Suffix

Address: _____

City/Town/Province: _____

State: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____ Country (if not USA): _____

You may send this form and pay your annual dues via PAYPAL - **OR** - by Check/Money Order made payable to Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc. Please send check/money order with this form to:

David Rice, 2808 Superior Drive, Livermore, California 94550